

REIMER TERRY A

Form 4

December 20, 2012

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

Check this box
if no longer
subject to
Section 16.
Form 4 or
Form 5
obligations
may continue.
See Instruction
1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF
SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,
Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section
30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
REIMER TERRY A

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol
AMERICAN EQUITY
INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING
CO [AEL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)

Executive Vice President

(Last) (First) (Middle)

6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/18/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
__X__ Form filed by One Reporting Person
____ Form filed by More than One Reporting
Person

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	12/18/2012		M		47,250	A	\$ 10.24
					205,757		
Common Stock	12/18/2012		M		27,750	A	\$ 9.27
					233,507		
Common Stock	12/18/2012		F		22,875	D	\$ 12.02
					210,632		
Common Stock	12/18/2012		F		200	D	\$ 12.024
					210,432		
Common Stock	12/18/2012		F		600	D	\$ 12.025
					209,832		

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Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	11,766	D	\$ 12.03	198,066	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	200	D	\$ 12.0325	197,866	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	100	D	\$ 12.033	197,766	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	100	D	\$ 12.034	197,666	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	2,050	D	\$ 12.035	195,616	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	1,500	D	\$ 12.037	194,116	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	6,432	D	\$ 12.04	187,684	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	3,900	D	\$ 12.05	183,784	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	900	D	\$ 12.06	182,884	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	3,900	D	\$ 12.07	178,984	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	100	D	\$ 12.075	178,884	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	600	D	\$ 12.08	178,284	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	2,759	D	\$ 12.085	175,525	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	4,618	D	\$ 12.1	170,907	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	500	D	\$ 12.11	170,407	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	200	D	\$ 12.1125	170,207	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	3,700	D	\$ 12.115	166,507	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	275	D	\$ 12.01	166,232	D
Common Stock	12/18/2012	F	100	D	\$ 12.03	166,132	D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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(9-02)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 10.24	12/18/2012		M		47,250		03/15/2013	03/15/2016	Common Stock	47,250
Options - Right to Buy	\$ 9.27	12/18/2012		M		27,750		06/11/2013	06/11/2020	Common Stock	27,750

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
REIMER TERRY A 6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	Executive Vice President

Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney
12/20/2012
____Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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